



3724
Election
#12/2/03

Patent

HM-388

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Günter Knepe et al.
Serial No: 09/744,181
Filed: March 12, 2001
For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR GUIDING AND SUPPORTING A
THIN SHEET OR METAL STRIP
Examiner: Clark F. Dexter
Art Unit: 3724

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

RESPONSE

S I R:

In response to the Official Action dated October 30, 2003, applicants hereby elect the invention indicated by the Examiner as Group I, on which are readable claims 11, 12, 14 - 17, 19 and 20.

Applicants retain their right to file a Divisional Application

for the non-elected invention of Group II, on which are readable claims 13, 18, 21, 22 and 23.

In addition, in response to the Election of Species requirement, applicants elect Species A.

It is noted that the Examiner has indicated that claims 11, 12, 14, 19, 20 are generic in Group I.

As indicated in the Office Action, the claims corresponding to Group I/Species A are claims 11, 12, 14, 17, 19, 20.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 13, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on November 13, 2003.

By: *F. Kueffner*
Friedrich Kueffner

Date: November 13, 2003